

MINUTES
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF YORK

Adjourned Meeting
October 13, 2004

5:30 p.m.

Meeting Convened. An Adjourned Meeting of the York County Board of Supervisors was called to order at 5:31 p.m., Wednesday, October 13, 2004, in the Gallery, York Hall, by Chairman Thomas G. Shepperd, Jr.

Attendance. The following members of the Board of Supervisors were present: Walter C. Zarembo, Sheila S. Noll, Kenneth L. Bowman, James S. Burgett, and Thomas G. Shepperd, Jr.

Also in attendance were James O. McReynolds, County Administrator; and James E. Barnett, County Attorney.

JOINT MEETING WITH THE YORK COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

Planning Commissioners in Attendance: Andrew A. Simasek, Chairman; Al Ptaszniak, Jr., Vice Chairman; Nicholas F. Barba; Alexander T. Hamilton; and John W. Staton.

After dinner, Chairman Shepperd expressed his appreciation to the members of the Planning Commission and the Planning Commission's staff for their services in support of the citizens of York County. He stated that in all the committees in the County, there are two from his perspective that end up producing results that are heard about and affects the history of the County, and they are the Planning Commission and the Industrial Development Authority. He indicated that being on the Planning Commission is not an easy task, and it is very challenging. Mr. Shepperd stated that York County has a tremendous history that the citizens are proud of and is important to retain. York County does not want to look like Washington, D.C., New York, or Newport News. The Comprehensive Plan effort is now underway, and several of the Board members addressed it at the last regular meeting of the Board encouraging citizens to get involved in the process.

Mr. Simasek indicated the Planning Commission members appreciate the words from Mr. Shepperd, and they appreciate the opportunity to meet with the Board of Supervisors one-on-one. He asked if any of the Board members or Planning Commission members wished to bring up any issues to address at this time.

Mrs. Noll stated the Planning Commission has a difficult job in that the members base their decisions on good land use and not emotions, which is not always easy to do. She thanked the Planning Commission members for their consistency, and she expressed her appreciation to them for the time they spend doing a difficult job.

Mr. Burgett noted he watches all the Planning Commission meetings with great interest. The members ask a lot of good questions, and he stated he feels the Board and the Planning Commission are in sync on most issues. He spoke of the Route 17 Corridor revitalization and the Comprehensive Plan review process as two very important projects for the Planning Commission at this time. Mr. Burgett thanked the Planning Commission members for all they do, and stated the Board looks forward to a continuing close working relationship.

Mr. Zarembo echoed Mr. Burgett's thoughts concerning the relationship between the Board of Supervisors and the Planning Commission. He noted the Planning Commission is an independent body that has an understanding of its charter as the land use body of the County. He stated the Planning Commission and the Board of Supervisors do not always agree on everything, but this is where new ideas come from. He stated land is an emotional issue; and in its review of the Comprehensive Plan, nothing should keep the Planning Commission from considering what part of the county should be used for economic development, residential, or business use. He indicated there could be several residential subdivisions in the county that might

have a little island of economic development use within it, and common sense must be a part of the analysis.

Mr. Bowman thanked the Planning Commission members for all they do for the county. He stated he thinks of the Planning Commission as the front line when it comes to the hard topics. He indicated he also watches the Planning Commission meetings, and he refers to the minutes of the Planning Commission and the comments made by them and the citizens. Mr. Bowman stated the Comprehensive Plan is a very demanding issue, and he hopes more citizens get involved and not become complacent because things are going well.

Mr. Barba complimented the staff, stating they are the professionals who make the lives of the Planning Commission and the Board much easier.

Mr. Simasek stated nothing gets in front of the Planning Commission unless it is an exception to the Comprehensive Plan, and it does not have much control over the land use on a day-to-day basis. The Comprehensive Plan review is the time when everyone can get a little control. He suggested that the Board and Planning Commission sit down together after the steering committee completes its meetings and discuss the Plan and set the goals together.

Mrs. Noll agreed that meeting together before the Planning Commission finalizes its recommendations is a good idea. She noted there were not many changes made during the last review process, but they were good ones. She stated she feels the Comprehensive Plan will remain fairly the same.

Mr. Zaremba noted there are many planners in this process, not just the citizens. He also agreed that it would be a good idea to meeting again with the Planning Commission before the Commission makes its recommendation on the Comprehensive Plan.

Meeting Adjourned. At 6:55 p.m. Chairman Shepperd declared the meeting adjourned sine die.

James O. McReynolds, Clerk
York County Board of Supervisors

Thomas G. Shepperd, Chairman
York County Board of Supervisors